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Beiträge zur Kenntnis der altgriechischen Volkssprache. Von ERNST NACHMANSON. Skrifter utgifna af K. Humanistiska Vetenskaps-Samfundet i Uppsala, XIII, 4.

An extensive collection of "significant errors" in Greek inscriptions and papyri, mostly belonging to the general phenomena of assimilation and dissimilation between non-contiguous sounds. Especially where the sounds belong to different words, e.g., *Δάμπωνος* (= *Δάμπρωνος* as elsewhere in the same inscription) *ἐλεύθερον, μητὶ* (= *μητρὶ*) *Ἡρὶ ἄλλῃ*, etc., is the material almost wholly new, that is not previously brought together. Such cases are generally corrected by editors without comment. It is only when numerous examples of a similar character are brought together that their significance becomes undeniable. Yet it is still a delicate question how far these are errors in writing merely, and how far they reflect slips in speech. That "Schreibfehler vielfach bloss geschriebene Sprechfehler sind und dann auch dieselbe Regeln zeigen" the author quotes from Meringer. No one will doubt that this is often the case. But, so far as the reviewer's observation goes, the phenomena of assimilation, dissimilation, and transposition of non-contiguous sounds, while common enough in careless speech, are disproportionately common in careless writing.¹ A degree of inattention is possible in careless writing, especially copying, which is not equaled in careless speech. If this is so, the probability is that only a limited proportion of the examples collected by the author reflect actual slips of speech—that is, in the individual cases. But they illustrate phenomena which are also current in speech, and in that way, even when not more specifically, contribute to our knowledge of popular speech in Greece.

CARL D. BUCK

Gesammelte philologische Schriften. Von JOHANNES VAHLEN. Erster Teil: Schriften der Wiener Zeit, 1858–74. Leipzig: Teubner, 1911. Pp. viii+658. M. 14.

Professor Vahlen's Latin *prooemia indicibus lectionum praemissa* were published in 1907–8 under the title *Opuscula Academica*. In order to round out the edition of his *opuscula* it remained to gather together the briefer essays written in German. This is the purpose of the present work, the first half of which is here under notice. Absolute completeness is not proposed, but the omissions and the reasons therefore are noted in the author's preface. In the literary activity of a life so long and fruitful as that of Professor Vahlen some few items would naturally be of minor significance or of a character justifying exclusion on other grounds, and the sane

¹ Instances under this head which the reviewer has happened to note in his own writing and hereby contributes to the statistics of this class of errors, are: *psisolis* (*psiolis*), *insuralum* (*insularum*), *prece discussion* (*preceding discussion*).